

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee, printed during the month of October, 1898, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Number, Date, and Circulation figures for various days in October 1898.

Total 817,094 Less unsold and returned papers, 17,823 Net total average, 797,275 Net daily average, 25,718

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 24th day of October, 1898. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

This is an age of progress. Congressional leaders are quarrelling over the length of the Christmas recess before even congress has convened.

A leading real estate dealer says his firm has done more business the last month than was done in any other one month in three years. Simply a straw.

It is greatly to be feared the people of Omaha prefer to go to Chicago and New York for their grand opera, rather than to have their grand opera come to them.

Note how Omaha's clearings record keeps right near the top in the percentage of increase column. And business in general keeps abreast of the clearings.

Paris correspondents can stir up a war scare on just as small a provocation as the ranchman who has hay and provisions to sell in the vicinity of an Indian reservation.

The safe return of Emperor William from his pilgrimage to the Holy Land ought to be the signal for a regular exodus of crowned heads from Europe toward Palestine.

The Spanish commissioners still continue their horsetrader tactics. They have not yet grasped the idea that this is a one-price store with all goods marked in plain figures.

The Spanish must derive considerable consolation out of the information that General Blanco has turned over his command. It was only a hairbreadth escape that he managed to have that to turn over.

One of the latest scientific works commended in the book reviews is referred to as Green on Forestry. If there is anything in a name the author must be at his best in those chapters which treat of foliage.

It is certainly discouraging to the populist state officials in Kansas just on the eve of being turned into the ice cold world to discover that some one who had access to the vault in the capital had absorbed all their savings.

One of the most gratifying evidences of the benefits of the Transmississippi Exposition is the decrease in the number of dependent families. Only the unfortunate now ask for alms. All able-bodied men had work the last year.

If the United States goes into the business of establishing open doors, the partition that separates the home market from the world market will be in danger of such wholesale puncturing that before long no one will be able to find even the doors.

The Cubans are to have an early opportunity to demonstrate their capability for self-government. General Wood has put the municipal affairs of Santiago in order and given them an excellent practical example of how the affairs of a city should be managed.

Advocates of state ownership of railroads, who are also liable to a man found opposing the issue of government bonds, will find food for reflection in the announcement that the French government is to issue a new loan of 100,000,000 francs for railway construction in Indo-China.

Agitation is begun in Illinois for the abolition of the circle at the top of the official ballot. The circle ought to go not only in Illinois, but also in Nebraska. It is confusing to the voter, a premium for the ignorant vote and an incentive to fraud. Let the vote be for men and not for roosters, grizzlies, elephants or eagles.

The operation of the military post-offices will leave a red ink balance on Uncle Sam's books. No private corporation running the Postoffice department would have gone to the expense of giving the soldiers on the field the benefit of 2-cent communication with friends and relatives at home. This is one item in the annual postoffice deficiency that the people will bear without complaint.

IN A BENEVOLENT FRAME OF MIND.

If there is any one trait that distinguishes the true Briton from all other nationalities it is his supreme usefulness in dealing with rivals in the commercial and industrial field. The latch-strings of the Briton are always hanging loose and his storehouses and warehouses, factories and banks never close their doors so long as there is a profitable customer in sight.

This hospitable and benevolent turn of mind doubtless accounts for the policy whereby the benevolent Briton always buys in the cheapest and sells in the dearest market. It is this same spirit of sublime disinterestedness that has inspired Britain to sympathize with America in the war against Spain and America its statesmen and warriors with exuberant joy over the prospective acquisition of the Philippines by the United States as the logical outcome of the war for humanity.

Being in a most benevolent frame of mind the British lion was his tail approvingly to the American eagle or the exhibits a preme satisfaction over the prospect of the open door which is to let John Bull come into Manila and all the other portions of the Philippines on an equal footing with the Yankee traders who are not only to foot all the bills for safeguarding British interests in the islands but expected also to keep the Russian bear at bay in case he shows a disposition to dispute British supremacy in Chinese waters.

When Uncle Sam supplies John Bull with an ocean patrol at his own expense and removes the barriers that have heretofore interfered with his ambition for unrestricted traffic in Australasia the British naturally will be in almost as amiable a frame of mind as Artemus Ward was when he declared his willingness to sacrifice all his wife's relations in the war.

England never does things by halves. As a striking proof of its grateful appreciation of America's departure from the old landmarks of George Washington, which sought to avoid all entangling alliances with foreign nations, England makes a voluntary tender of a coaling station in the Red sea.

England never does things by halves and when it makes a free gift of a coaling station in the neighborhood of the Suez canal it has outdone itself in matchless generosity. By long-distance telescope that Red sea island bears a marked resemblance to the wooden horse by which the cunning Greeks several thousand years ago managed to wedge their way into the impregnable capital of the Trojans. With a coaling station in the Red sea the United States may in due time take an active interest in the Egyptian question and finally when Africa is partitioned among the civilized nations claim a big slice of the Dark Continent as its share in joining Britain to fight the battles of humanity.

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These inherited traits of unalloyed love for humanity have manifested themselves in a more pronounced degree from year to year as we approach the twentieth century. The only wonder is that the people on this side of the water have not been able to appreciate these spontaneous outbursts of manifest destiny until the open door to the Philippines and a free-gift coaling station in the Red sea have overwhelmed them with a sense of inexpressible gratitude.

There is only one thing more to move America toward an affectionate embrace of Britannia and that is a tender of Ireland as a Christmas present to Uncle Sam.

POSSIBILITIES OF IRRIGATION.

The extent to which the western country can be developed by irrigation is a question which would be difficult at present to answer with any degree of accuracy. According to the report of the secretary of the interior there still remain in the public domain in the states known as desert land states 546,549,655 acres. Of this 99,000,000 acres are classed as barren, irremediable waste and 145,373,655 is woodland and forest. The remaining 302,176,000 acres are land which so far as soil and character are concerned are capable of being made productive under irrigation.

The insurmountable barrier to placing all of this land under cultivation is the lack of water. The estimate of the officers of the geological survey is that water sufficient to irrigate 71,500,000 is available. The remainder of this vast portion of the public domain therefore can never be of value for farming purposes, but must remain, as at present, grazing land. The amount of public land in the various states and territories which is capable of irrigation and the water supply available is as follows:

Table showing water supply available in various states and territories, including Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Total 322,176,000 71,500,000 From this it is apparent that while the amount of these lands is sufficient to add materially to the productive resources of the country those who have opposed public expenditures for their reclamation on the score of bringing about an overproduction of agricultural products are needlessly alarmed. Should the work be undertaken at once, and prosecuted with the utmost vigor the annual increase in production would not be so great as the natural increase of home consumption through the growth of our own country.

The fact emphasized by a study of the report is that some well-considered action should be taken to conserve the water supply and render it available where it will produce the best results for the country at large. This can only

be done by following some well-ordered and carefully devised system. For the good of the general public the water should not be allowed to be appropriated for comparatively worthless land while other naturally much more valuable is cut off perpetually from improvement for the lack of water. Such restraints can be prevented while the entire body is yet public domain, but once it passes into private hands and the water is appropriated there is no equitable remedy.

Some legislation along these lines has already been enacted, but the discussion at the last irrigation convention developed the fact that those who have made an extensive study of the question consider it far from adequate. To correct what will manifestly lead to evil is comparatively easy at present, but once the general development of this vast domain is well under way it will be difficult if not impossible of accomplishment.

The principal difficulty in the way of securing the needed legislation is the complete ignorance of the subject on the part of congressmen and senators from states where irrigation is unknown. This lack of knowledge begets indifference and the measures are pushed aside for matters in which the majority have a personal interest. The question is in the hands of the best thought of any statesman. These 71,000,000 acres capable of irrigation, which, if utilized to the best advantage there is water enough to irrigate, will make 900,000 farms of eighty acres each, or easily capable of sustaining by the pursuits of agriculture alone 4,500,000 people with the attendant hundreds of thousands of mechanics, tradesmen and other branches of urban population. It would be a shame to allow such magnificent opportunities to fall of their full fruition through inadvertence or willful neglect.

SPANISH DICKERING.

The American peace commissioners having given the Spanish commissioners until tomorrow to reply to the ultimatum in regard to the Philippines presented by this government, the Spaniards meantime have busied themselves in devising new proposals, which were informally submitted to our commissioners and by them communicated to the Washington authorities. The salient point in these alternative proposals is the fact that Spain is willing to relinquish a great deal of sovereignty for a liberal pecuniary consideration. This has been understood from the beginning of the negotiations, but it is now for the first time definitely stated.

It is not to be supposed that the Spanish commissioners seriously expected that anything would come of these proposals. They cannot reasonably be found fault with, however, for making every effort to get the best terms possible. That is their duty, failure to perform which would subject them to the relentless condemnation of their countrymen. But the policy of dicker and delay may be carried too far. Persistence in such a course beyond the limit deemed by our government to be reasonable might have the effect to increase the demands. It has been discovered that we need a location in the Caroline Islands for a cable station and its purchase has been postponed. How simple it would be to find an excuse in Spanish delay of peace negotiations for including one or all of these islands in our demands. And we could urge just as valid a right to take any of the remaining colonies of Spain as we have to take all of the Philippines.

Perhaps the Spaniards understand this and will not carry dilatory tactics so far as to invite further reprisals. Their decision will probably be known within the next forty-eight hours. According to Washington advices the American commissioners have been instructed to adhere to the demands presented early in the past week and that no proposition for their modification would be considered. There is no doubt that this is final and it is to be presumed that the Spanish government so understands it. Very likely that government has already reached a decision. At all events the expectation is that Spain will yield and that the conclusion of a treaty of peace will soon follow, since there will be little to discuss when the Philippine question is out of the way. If this expectation is realized a treaty may be ready for submission to the senate by the time congress assembles, December 5. It seems hardly possible that Spain will do anything to invite a renewal of hostilities.

LOANING TO EUROPE.

The fact that American bankers and capitalists have money loaned in Europe to the amount of many millions of dollars evidences the progress which this country has recently made toward financial independence. Various estimates have been made of the amount of American money now loaned in Great Britain and upon the continent of Europe, and the matter has commanded such interest among capitalists as to be made the subject of a careful inquiry. A leading New York banker who made an investigation found that within a few weeks past not less than \$40,000,000 had been sent to Europe as loans from New York and undoubtedly there have been similar transactions at other financial centers, so that it is not extravagant to estimate the amount of American money loaned to Europe, say within the past two or three months, at \$45,000,000. And this does not represent all of the American money now in Europe. The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Press says there are several banks in New York and perhaps two or three trust companies which have amounts varying from \$500,000 to as much as \$200,000,000 on deposit in Great Britain and on the continent. One bank had at one time nearly \$200,000,000 on deposit in Germany and that money was available for loans and discounts and was receiving interest just as would have been the case had it been in this country. Investigation conclusively showed that the total amount of American cash which has been loaned to Europe this fall cannot be very far from \$70,000,000. Our bankers and capitalists are able to send this large sum abroad without creating stringency in the supply of money here or raising its

price. On the contrary there is in the United States an abundant supply of money for the legitimate demands of business and interest rates have never been lower for sound collateral than at present.

Let those who talk about there not being enough money in the country intelligently consider these facts. They conclusively demonstrate the fallacy of such a contention. The United States has been accumulating capital during the last two years at a wonderful rate and this is still going on. Since January, 1897, the total money in circulation has increased about \$200,000,000, nearly all of it in gold. The stock of gold in the United States now exceeds \$700,000,000, the largest amount in our history. We are stronger financially than ever before and in this respect the United States is inferior to no other nation on earth. There is in all this the most complete vindication of our monetary and economic policies.

A PROSPEROUS SECTION.

The Pacific northwest is experiencing a highly satisfactory degree of prosperity. The Portland Oregonian says that almost every local paper throughout that section furnishes convincing evidence of the return of prosperity to its own neighborhood. It is gratifying to read the record, says that paper, in a thousand little local mentionings, of unexpectedly large rewards for the year's labor, of big yields and a propitious season, of active demand and satisfactory sales, of deliverance from debt and the brighter prospect of independence. The wheat growers of the Pacific northwest have had great crops for which they have received remunerative prices, while the stockmen have realized good profits. In short all the interests in that section have had a year of notable prosperity and the Pacific northwest is richer by a great deal than it was a year ago or ever before.

Referring to the good results that will come from the improved conditions, the Oregonian says that one of them "will be the practical disappearance of populism and all its cranky and crazy notions of government and finances." There is warrant for this view in the elections of this year in that section. The result of these showed that the people of the Pacific northwest are influenced by facts and are not to be misled by doctrines which their experience has demonstrated to be fallacious. It is safe to say that a majority of them will never again be found supporting free silver and populist vagaries, while the example they have set this year will have a most beneficial effect. It is unfortunate that the common sense of the people of the Pacific northwest is not more general.

TRIBUTE TO ALIEN SHIP OWNERS.

A Philadelphia paper states that merchants of that city alone have already paid out this year to alien ship owners nearly \$4,000,000 for the transportation abroad of a little over 340,000 bushels of grain. It says that upon the figures of freight paid for the movement of grain to Europe, British steamships of the modern type and size are known to be paying their owners in the neighborhood of from 20 to 30 and even 35 per cent on the amount of capital they have invested. Out of the millions of bushels of grain shipped from Philadelphia this year not one bushel went abroad in an American vessel and probably 85 per cent of it was carried by British bottoms, while Norwegian and Swedish "tramps" came in for the other 15 per cent. What is true of Philadelphia in this respect applies largely to other ports. Our grain is taken abroad almost wholly in foreign vessels. American producers thus paying heavy tribute to alien ship owners.

It is roughly estimated that American manufacturers and producers will pay foreign ship owners this year for carrying their products not far from \$200,000,000. We do not believe this to be an extravagant estimate, but assume that it is, even half that amount is a great deal of money to be annually sent out of the country for the enrichment of European vessel owners. It would certainly be much better if it could be paid to American ship owners and kept at home for disbursement among our own people.

Such facts make a very strong argument for the building up of a merchant marine, but another argument quite as important is the necessity, in the interest of our expanding commerce, of becoming independent of European ship owners.

The United States is having a forceful example of what would have been the result had the administration shown the least sign of wavering when the first talk of European participation in the settlement of the unpleasantness with Spain was indulged in. The great powers of Europe sat sulkily by and witnessed the humiliation of Greece in the struggle for the freedom of the Cretans. After the war was over and the Turk had a right to believe he had carried his point the great powers step in, evict the conquerors from Crete and install Prince George of Greece as governor of the island. He goes, however, not as a representative of his own country but of the powers, which will reap where others have sown. Every development of the contest from its inception to its closing chapter renders more apparent the wisdom and foresight of President McKinley and his advisers.

The Omaha exposition is occupying a great deal of space in the annual reports of the various bureau heads and department secretaries of the national government now being given to the public. Every department participated in one form or another in this wonderful enterprise with the result that the government exhibit excelled everything before attempted by them. The pages devoted to the Omaha exposition in the government publications refer therefore to some of the most important government work of the year.

There is not a great city in the midwest states that does not every fall produce some kind of a festival or spectacular attraction, the object of which is to draw people from tributary territory.

Some of these cities are competitors of Omaha and their jobbers also send railroad tickets to country merchants to induce trade and to divert it from rival cities. Every known expedient is resorted to in the effort to bring the largest possible number of people into the city. It is expected, of course, that the people will spend money and to this extent the business of the country merchant is impaired. The latter may have cause for complaint, but that cause is due to the inevitable tendency of the times, which diverts trade from suburban towns by trolleys, trams, bicycles and other means of rapid transit.

Nebraska's Christmas gift to the soldiers at Manila has at last started, though it will have to make better time than usual to arrive at its destination on the great holiday. The unfortunate conflict which had its origin in antielection politics is largely responsible for the delay in collecting and forwarding the consignment.

The packing houses of South Omaha are grappling with the railroads in a contest of endurance. The packers are demanding concessions which the railroads decline to grant. With a commercial club built on the plan of that at Kansas City to which the packers might appeal in force there would be a better chance of success.

The sultan should have reserved a veto on the selection of high commissioner for Crete. The appointment by the powers of Prince George of Greece for that position without the aid or consent of Turkey must make that government wonder what it gained by winning out in its late war with the Greeks.

United States marines are a pretty good thing to have around when order is to be preserved. The commander of the Boston has landed a force at Tientsin, the port of Peking, China, and it is a pretty safe bet that there will be due respect for the blue jacket in the Orient.

Iowa is having trouble finding borrowers for its school fund, and the most embarrassing feature of the situation is that people who have previously borrowed from the fund persist in paying it back. For all that some people still insist there is no prosperity in the land.

Results Prove Its Wisdom.

The Nebraska republicans didn't skate around the edges of the financial question this year. Their platform was of the St. Louis variety.

Promoting Prosperity.

Prosperity goes with republican success. The certainty of a republican senate for a long term of years has given a great impulse to business throughout the country.

A Mean Suggestion.

It is a safe proposition that the woman Federation of Women's Clubs to abolish silk petticoats during the proceedings was neither young nor good looking.

One Good Show Deserves Another.

Omaha is so delighted with the success of its recent exposition that it thinks of having another one next year. That city is evidently inclined to go into the show business for a living.

Forging Ahead.

Iowa stands at the head of the corn producers this year, and also rolled up the customary republican majority. Across the line, in Nebraska, the crop increased materially, but did not quite reach the republican standard.

Retirement of Joe Jefferson.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Joseph Jefferson has turned over Rip Van Winkle and Bob Acres to his two sons, with minute instructions on acting and costuming the characters. The result of the experiment will be noted with interest. Jefferson inherited his own knowledge of the stage, but dramatic talent is not always transmitted from parent to child. Yet there have been several distinguished lines of actors and in several cases the sons and daughters have been more famous than their famous sires.

Improved Methods of Production.

J. Sterling Morton's Conservator. Improved methods of production have impressed themselves upon every manufacturing establishment in the United States. Utensils, implements and instruments made of iron and steel are put upon the market at constantly lessening prices. And soon, upon all farms—no, upon a small number—intelligent men will with system and discipline demonstrate the value and increasing profits of improved methods of agricultural production. Farmers will keep books. Farmers will plant, harvest, garner and sell understandingly.

Hungry for Islands.

Pittsburg Dispatch. The latest imperialist project is to buy from Spain one of the Caroline islands for the least sign of wavering when the first talk of European participation in the settlement of the unpleasantness with Spain was indulged in. The great powers of Europe sat sulkily by and witnessed the humiliation of Greece in the struggle for the freedom of the Cretans. After the war was over and the Turk had a right to believe he had carried his point the great powers step in, evict the conquerors from Crete and install Prince George of Greece as governor of the island. He goes, however, not as a representative of his own country but of the powers, which will reap where others have sown. Every development of the contest from its inception to its closing chapter renders more apparent the wisdom and foresight of President McKinley and his advisers.

No Time for Writing.

Philadelphia Record. So busy is Admiral Dewey in protecting American interests and raising sunken Spanish war ships at Manila that he has turned a deaf ear to all the blandishments of magazine publishers who want his exclusive story of the May day fight to round out an effective war series, in which the chief heroes of the Cuban naval operations figure as authors and historians. "I have no time for such work," says Admiral Dewey; and the publishers, who had fancied that a large pecuniary inducement would set any official pen scribbling, are nonplussed accordingly. Dewey does great deeds, but he does not write about them for hire.

The New Pension Roll.

New York Commercial. Comparatively few of the claims for pensions which are piling up at Washington, arising from the war with Spain, are on account of death and wounds on the battlefield. Most of them are on account of disabilities arising from sickness in camp. This is one of the burdens of the recent war which cannot be shifted to the shoulders of Spain. It is one which we must bear ourselves. The cost of these new pensions, however, will not be without its compensations if it shall result hereafter in enforcing the necessity for better military preparations for such emergencies as Spain forced upon the United States last spring.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

A clean man will not live in a dirty house. Too many make a god out of the majority. Adversity tests faith, and prosperity tests love.

Every humbug puts a pious motto over his door.

You may backslide, but you can never un-sin.

We are made by our enemies and marred by ourselves.

The arm that is swift to strike may be strong to succor.

Encouraging little rights is as helpful as criticizing great wrongs.

A blunt tool with a man behind it is better than a Damascus blade without one.

THE PHILIPPINE PROBLEM.

Chicago News: Wall and Lombard streets are already forming a tract to use the "open door" in the Philippines. A trust does not need an open door. Like the camel of the Arabian proverb, all it requires is room to get its head in and the body will soon follow.

New York World: And we paid only \$15,000,000 for the peaceful acquisition of the Louisiana territory, which contained only the western basin of the Mississippi-Missouri river system and out of which we have made twelve great states—Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Wyoming, Colorado and Montana.

Buffalo Express: But the peace commissioners at Paris, speaking unquestionably for the administration, have publicly declared that it is the policy of the United States to maintain an open door in the Philippines. The Express can interpret that only as meaning that the administration does not contemplate annexing the Philippines in any proper sense of the word. The demand for the cession of the archipelago must be for some other purpose than annexation. What that purpose is remains to be disclosed. The question of the moment seems to be only the removal of Spanish sovereignty.

Chicago Record: Chicago negroes in a meeting at Bethel Methodist church Tuesday night adopted resolutions relative to conditions in the south, among which was one expressing opposition to the acquisition of more territory by the United States until the government can protect its citizens at home. This protest is very significant. When the nation is unable to insure to its own citizens, within its own domain, the rights solemnly guaranteed by the constitution, because of race prejudices and animosities, it should hesitate before taking into the United States still other alien races.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Senator Platt's Tioga bank has resumed business. The boss can also be found at the old stand.

The Boston Transcript observes, without fear of retribution, that Patti is warbling, "Oh, the Swede By and By."

The latest version of Berkeley's famous line comes from St. Paul, "westward the course of empire takes its way."

Collis P. Huntington, the railway magnate, always eats, on business days, a lunch of bread and milk which costs him 10 cents and petticoats during the proceedings was neither young nor good looking.

Irwin McDowell Garfield, a son of the former president, has successfully tried his first case in the Boston municipal courts. He is 27 years old.

Two descendants of Christopher Columbus are said to be inmates of a poorhouse in Cadiz. This is doubtless why the Spaniards are determined to take the Columbus monument to Havana back to Spain.

Paul du Chailly, who is visiting in Boston, said the other day: "I don't know why I'm always called 'the African traveler.' I spent three times as many years in exploring the 'Land of the Midnight Sun.'"

Richard Olney has written a letter to Colonel Roosevelt, in which he says: "Congratulations, young man, on a career that is most plucky. I have ever known, and followed by the success which so much pluck deserves, but does not always achieve."

Prof. James B. Thayer of Harvard adds that we should at once provide by amendment that no region beyond sea should ever become a state of the United States. This is done party exercises will prove too much for us and we shall go to the dogs," he says.

Joshua E. Dodge of Milwaukee, whom Governor Scofield of Wisconsin has appointed a justice of the supreme court, was born in Arlington, Mass., in 1854, and was appointed an assistant attorney general of the United States in 1903 by President Cleveland.

It is said Lieutenant Hobson received an offer of \$5,000 from each of two magazines simultaneously for an article descriptive of his exploit with the Merrimac at Santiago and put the affair in the hands of a legal agent, who succeeded in running the offered price up to \$6,000, at which figure the bargain was concluded.

On the eve of Harvard's triumph over Yale there died at the former college a man whose death cast a gloom over the whole university. This was John Milton Kullmer, 1900, who worked by day and prepared himself for Harvard by night; worked his way east from his home in Great Falls, Mont., in '96, and secured a position in Boston whereby he paid his college expenses.

Colonel Roosevelt, who is a graduate of Harvard, delivered a lecture before the Lowell institute on Saturday last after the Yale game. His subject was "The Western Movement of Civilization," but he began his remarks with: "The score, I believe, was 17 to 0," and when the applause had died away he added: "It was a glorious victory. I don't know how I've been so pleased with anything."

New York is soon to have one of the noblest art buildings in the world. It will cover eighteen acres of space, and a stretch for an entire block along the Fifth avenue front of Central park. It was designed by the late Richard Hunt, and the new facade is approaching completion, so that the bulky of his taste and skill can be fully appreciated. The collection in the building is now valued at \$8,500,000 of pictures, statuary and other works of art, but much of it is loaned by private owners. The city has agreed to appropriate \$75,000 annually to increase the income of the art museum, as the endowment of \$500,000 is not sufficient for its maintenance.

Milwaukee is wrestling with a problem of securing adequate compensation for the renewal of a street railway franchise, and has laid the foundation for a profitable deal. The terms agreed upon between the city and the corporation provides that the corporation shall pay into the city treasury on the 1st of January next \$50,000; on the succeeding year \$50,000; in 1901, \$70,000; in 1902, \$80,000; in 1903, \$90,000; and in 1904, \$100,000. The latter rate is to continue each year thereafter until such time as the business of the company pays to the stockholders 8 per cent, when the company shall pay to the city in addition to the \$100,000 one-third of the profits earned by the company after its dividend of 6 per cent. The plan is the most profitable one ever proposed in any city in the country. It means nearly \$3,000,000 for Milwaukee during the life of the franchise—twenty-five years.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Minneapolis Times: A Salvation army man has broken the record by singing fifty-nine hymns in fifty-nine minutes. No record ever stands very long, though. Some man with a 98-year voice and a collection of short hymns will go after him and get him out of these days.

Brooklyn Eagle: And now another Brooklyn clergyman has received a loving cup from his parishioners. If a clergyman were like other men, and had a thirst, what a fearful aggravation it would be to look at this cup every day and think what other people use it for!

Minneapolis Journal: The German emperor is anxious to be "summus episcopus," or head of the Protestant church in Germany. The emperor belongs to that class of men who want to be the white thing in their wards, alderman, street commissioners and sidewalk inspector in one.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: A Chicago preacher is credited with the statement that hell is entirely devoid of heat, an assertion which seems to require rather more proof than the person's unsupported word. Possibly his statement is based on experience developed from a residence in a flat where the janitor economizes on coal.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTIES.

Somerville Journal: Man's ideal of female beauty usually quite different when he is engaged and ten years after he is married.

Chicago Tribune: He-Nelle, just look at that man standing behind me. I don't think I ever saw any one so plain as this fellow—Hub, dear, you forget yourself!

Puck: He—One doesn't look to a plumber for a new house, does he?

Sh—I don't know. They say plumbers are often wealthy.

New York Weekly: Mr. Pinkie (to p. m.)—My dear, the doctor says a brisk walk before going to bed will insure a good night's sleep. I will carry the young and beautiful Miss Flippo.

Richmond Dispatch: They had been "keeping company" for eight years and when he finally proposed and was accepted in the arbor of his enthusiasm, he exclaimed: "Darling, you are worth your weight in gold!" With every true facetiousness she replied: "That is saying a good deal, for it was an awful long wait."

Chicago Tribune: "You are an iceberg!" exclaimed her elderly, but well preserved admirer, pale with anger and mortification. "A dozen Cupids, with a hundred arrows each, could never find a vulnerable place in your flinty heart!" "I will carry the young and beautiful Miss Flippo."